

City Hall Alexandria, Virginia

## Alexandria Waterfront Committee Department of Recreations, Parks and Cultural Activities 1108 Jefferson Street Alexandria Virginia 22314



April 2, 2010

Richard J. Baier, P.E.
Director, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services
City of Alexandria
City Hall
301 King Street, Room 4100
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Baier:

This letter summarizes the position of the Alexandria Waterfront Committee on snow removal from the Alexandria City Marina.

In general, we note that the City has done an excellent job of snow removal at the City Marina during routine snow events (less than 8 inches of snowfall). We also note that the extreme snow events like those experienced during the winter of 2009-2010—during which the City received a cumulative total of more than 50 inches of snow and three separate storms with snowfall of greater than one foot each—are an abnormal occurrence in Alexandria.

As the City plans for future snow emergencies, however, we recommend that the various user groups of the Alexandria City Marina be considered as the City prioritizes snow removal. The Marina and its users are not a monolith, and the snow clearing needs of each of the following user groups should be appropriately prioritized in the following order:

- Public safety and emergency services, including emergency access to the general Marina area by firefighters and other first responders and the Alexandria Fire Department's fire boat
- Commercial and institutional users, including access to the facilities and vessels of the Potomac River Boat Company, Potomac Belle, and Dandy Restaurant Cruises; the rear entrance of the Torpedo Factory Art Center (the building's only handicapped-accessible entrance); the Alexandria Seaport Center; and the Chart House and Torpedo Factory Food Pavilion.
- Pleasure boaters, including access to and along the piers used by lease slip holders
- Pedestrians and visitors, including pathways and boardwalks open to the general public

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We trust your discretion in prioritizing the requirements of each of these user groups relative to other snow clearing needs throughout the City.

If you should have further questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 202/365-2927 (mobile) or <a href="mattemacek@hotmail.com">natemacek@hotmail.com</a>. On behalf of the Alexandria Waterfront Committee, thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Nathan M. Macek, Chair

Alexandria Waterfront Committee

CC: James K. Hartmann, City Manager

James B. Spengler, Director, Department of Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities Roger Blakeley, Department of Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities Laura Seidler, Department of Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities